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GREETING.

At the close of the year 1905 we feel that it stands, and we hope it will forever stand, as the previous years of our National history have stood, for the higher exemplification of American Manhood and American Womanhood.

Nothing can perpetuate this glorious condition more than true patriotism of our people and an earnest desire and endeavor for the advancement of civic pride. Thus can we promote the greatness of our country from every view point.

Military patriotism, and a desire for Military and Naval success in the time of war, is estimable: but patriotism founded upon a determination to secure perpetuity of the fundamental principles of our government, to promote internal improvements and to exert civic pride in the time of peace is more estimable: thus our real civilization is enhanced, and peace and wealth are attained by ennobling the hearts as well as the minds of men influenced by Christianity, which, with Education, is securing for our Nation every year a higher place.

Our Country is becoming not alone a power from a Military and Naval standpoint, thus enabling us to exert physical force; but rather, and better, is becoming a good example to the rest of the world, because of our civic pride and advancement of peaceful methods.

National greatness increases individual responsibility to perpetuate the good things we enjoy: and this vast responsibility devolves upon a new generation every year, because so many are yearly being removed from the arena of life.

Nor is our greatness to be perpetuated by National, individual, or corporate wealth, agriculture, commerce, trade, art, science, literature or armies and navies, all of which may lead us into the temptation of trespassing upon the rights of others. Great nations, thousands of years ago, possessed all these advantages; yet these nations have gone into ruin and decay because of their inability to secure perpetuity of the blessings they enjoyed. Old Athens once the seat of the learning of the world, and old Rome, once the seat of the power of the world, are not the only illustrations.

Hence we may conclude that it is not physical things, but real humanity that constitutes the nation and makes it greater and better year by year.

Therefore we close the year 1905 with a feeling of appreciation for all our predecessors have done; and with a patriotic desire to perpetuate the results of their labors, we enter the realm of graver responsibilities and greater undertakings with a prayer for life, for health, for happiness and for success during 1906,

"Vivat respublica,"



LOUIS P. SHOEMAKER.

3.11.13

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